# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS MARSHALL DIVISION

BBG COMMUNICATIONS, INC., BBG HOLDINGS LIMITED,

Plaintiffs,

v.

NETWORK COMMUNICATIONS INTERNATIONAL CORP.; BLUE PHONES LIMITED; WILLIAM POPE; JAY WALTERS; JEFFERY WALTERS,

> Defendants and Third-Party Plaintiffs,

v.

RONALD PEREZ; GREGORIO L. GALICOT; RAFAEL GALICOT; MICHAEL STOMPS; AWI FANG aka SURIYANTO SURIYANTO; GORAN ALEXIEV; MICHAEL ALEXIEV; PATRICK MAUCHANT; KEVIN WATT; BBG HOLDINGS BERMUDA dba BBG COMMUNICATIONS (BERMUDA) LTD.

Third-Party Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 2:03-CV-227 (JUDGE WARD)

# ANSWER OF BBG COMMUNICATIONS, INC., BBG HOLDINGS LIMITED, RAFAEL GALICOT, AND GREGORIO GALICOT TO DEFENDANT NCIC'S FOURTH AMENDED COUNTERCLAIM AND CLAIM AGAINST THIRD-PARTY DEFENDANTS

Plaintiffs BBG Communications, Inc. and BBG Holdings Limited, and Third-party Defendants Gregorio Galicot and Rafael Galicot (collectively "BBG" or "Plaintiff") file this

reply and answer to Defendant NCIC's Fourth Amended Counterclaim and Claim Against Third-Party Defendants.

#### **PARTIES**

- 1. Plaintiff admits that Ronald Perez is a citizen of the United States of America and a domiciliary of Montgomery County, Texas. Plaintiff admits that Ronald Perez was re-engaged by BBG as a sales agent in connection with the sale of communications services by BBG in June 2003. Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of the remainder of paragraph 1 and therefore denies the same.
- 2. Plaintiff admits the allegations in paragraph 2.
- 3. Plaintiff admits the allegations in paragraph 3.
- 4. Plaintiff admits that Michael Stomps is a resident of the Cayman Islands and was engaged by BBG as a sales agent in June 2003. Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of the remainder of paragraph 5 and therefore denies the same.
- 5. Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of paragraph 5 and therefore denies the same.
- 6. Plaintiff admits that Goran Alexiev and Michel Alexiev are residents of the Czech Republic and were engaged by BBG as sales agents in June 2003. Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of the remainder of paragraph 6 and therefore denies the same.
- 7. Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of paragraph 7 and therefore denies the same.

- 8. Plaintiff admits that Keven Watt resides in Canada and was engaged by BBG as a sales agent in or around June 2003. Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of the remainder of paragraph 8 and therefore denies the same.
- 9. Plaintiff admits the allegations from paragraph 9.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 10. Plaintiff admits that NCIC's counterclaim alleges violations of the Lanham

  Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1051, et seq. Plaintiff denies the remaining allegations of paragraph 10.
- 11. Plaintiff denies the allegations of paragraph 11.
- 12. Plaintiff denies the allegations of paragraph 12.
- 13. Plaintiff denies the allegations of paragraph 13.

#### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 14. Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of paragraph 14 and therefore denies the same.
- 15. Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of paragraph 15 and therefore denies the same.
- 16. Plaintiff admits the allegations of paragraph 16.
- 17. Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of paragraph 17 and therefore denies the same.
- 18. Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of paragraph 18 and therefore denies the same.

- 19. Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of paragraph 19 and therefore denies the same.
- 20. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 20.
- 21. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 21.
- 22. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 22.
- 23. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 23.
- Plaintiff denies the allegations in the entire preamble of paragraph 24 and in 24. subparagraphs 24 (a), (b), (c), (d), (u) and (z). Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remainder of paragraph 24, subparagraphs 24 (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m), (n), (o), (p), (q), (r), (s), (t), (v), (w), (aa), (bb), (dd), (ee), (ff), (gg), and (hh) and therefore denies the same, except that Plaintiff specifically denies that Keven Watt contacted Gregorio Galicot about the allegations, and told by him that "Keven should not respond to NCIC and that he should kick butt." As to subparagraph (ii), Plaintiff denies each and every allegation therein, except that Plaintiff admits that Michael Stomps signed an agreement (which speaks for itself as to content) that has been produced in this action by BBG with document control number 4326, admits that Exhibit A, which is partially redacted, includes an email dated May 30, 2003 from Michael Stomps referring to a "side letter for use of NCIC Singapore," and admits that a letter to Jerry Gumpel dated September 16, 2003 from Ronald Perez attaches a copy of a contract with the Chile Airport. As to subparagraph (x), Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations therein and, therefore, denies such allegations, but Plaintiff specifically denies that BBG signed the

referenced contract with Chungwa. As to subparagraph (y), Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations therein and, therefore, denies such allegations, but Plaintiff admits that it obtained a contract with TSTT independent of Mr. Perez. As to subparagraph (cc), Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations therein and, therefore, denies such allegations, but Plaintiff admits that it currently has a contract with Telem for operator services products.

#### **COUNT ONE**

#### **Civil Conspiracy**

- 25. Answering the allegations of paragraph 25, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 24 as if fully set forth herein.
- 26. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 26.
- 27. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 27.
- 28. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 28.

#### **COUNT TWO**

# Misappropriation of Trade Secrets And Confidential Information

- 29. Answering the allegations of paragraph 29, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 28 as if fully set forth herein.
- 30. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 30.
- 31. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 31.
- 32. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 32.
- 33. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 33.
- 34. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 34.

- 35. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 35.
- 36. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 36.

#### **COUNT THREE**

#### Trademark Infringement (Texas Law)

- 37. Answering the allegations of paragraph 37, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 36 as if fully set forth herein.
- 38. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 38.
- 39. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 39.
- 40. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 40.
- 41. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 41(a). Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in paragraphs 41(b), (c), (d) and (e) and therefore denies the same.
- 42. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 42.
- 43. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 43.
- 44. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 44.
- 45. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 45.
- 46. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 46.

#### **COUNT FOUR**

## **Trademark Infringement (Federal Law)**

- 47. Answering the allegations of paragraph 47, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 46 as if fully set forth herein.
- 48. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 48.
- 49. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 49.

- 50. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 50.
- 51. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 51.
- 52. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 52.
- 53. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 53.

#### **COUNT FIVE**

#### **Defamation**

- 54. Answering the allegations of paragraph 54, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 53 as if fully set forth herein.
- 55. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 55(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) and (i).
- 56. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 56.
- 57. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 57.
- 58. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 58.
- 59. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 59.

#### **COUNT SIX**

#### **Commercial Disparagement**

- 60. Answering the allegations of paragraph 60, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 59 as if fully set forth herein.
- 61. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 61.
- 62. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 62.
- 63. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 63.
- 64. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 64.
- 65. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 65.
- 66. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 66.

#### **COUNT SEVEN**

# Tortious Interference with Existing Contractual Relations

- 67. Answering the allegations of paragraph 67, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 66 as if fully set forth herein.
- 68. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 68.
- 69. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 69(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k) and (l).
- 70. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 70.
- 71. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 71.
- 72. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 72.

#### **COUNT EIGHT**

# Tortious Interference with Prospective Contractual Relations

- 73. Answering the allegations of paragraph 73, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 72 as if fully set forth herein.
- 74. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 74.
- 75. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 75(a), (b), (c), (d) and (e).
- 76. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 76.
- 77. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 77.

#### **COUNT NINE**

#### **Breach of Fiduciary Duty**

78. Answering the allegations of paragraph 78, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 77 as if fully set forth herein.

- 79. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 79.
- 80. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 80.
- 81. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 81 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) and (i).
- 82. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 82.

#### **COUNT TEN**

# Knowing Participation In A Breach of Fiduciary Duty

- 83. Answering the allegations of paragraph 83, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 82 as if fully set forth herein..
- 84. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 84.
- 85. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 85.
- 86. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 86.

#### **COUNT ELEVEN**

#### **Breach of Contract**

- 87. Answering the allegations of paragraph 87, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 86 as if fully set forth herein.
- 88. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 88.
- 89. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 89.
- 90. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 90.

#### **COUNT TWELVE**

#### **Unjust Enrichment**

91. Answering the allegations of paragraph 91, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 90 as if fully set forth herein.

- 92. Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of paragraph 92 and therefore denies the same.
- 93. Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of paragraph 93 and therefore denies the same.
- 94. Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of paragraph 94 and therefore denies the same.
- 95. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 95.

#### **COUNT THIRTEEN**

#### Conversion

- 96. Answering the allegations of paragraph 96, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 95 as if fully set forth herein.
- 97. Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of paragraph 97 and therefore denies the same.
- 98. Plaintiff is without knowledge or information sufficient enough to form a belief as to the truth of paragraph 98 (a), (b) and (f). Plaintiff denies paragraph 98 (c), (d) and (e).
- 99. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 99.

#### **COUNT FOURTEEN**

## **Action in Tort: Violation of Texas Penal Code Section 32.43**

- 100. Answering the allegations of paragraph 100, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 99 as if fully set forth herein.
- 101. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 101(a) and (b).
- 102. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 102.

103. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 103.

#### **COUNT FIFTEEN**

#### **Unfair Competition**

- 104. Answering the allegations of paragraph 104, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 103 as if fully set forth herein.
- 105. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 105.
- 106. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 106.

#### **COUNT SIXTEEN**

#### **Computer Fraud and Abuse Act**

- 107. Answering the allegations of paragraph 107, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 106 as if fully set forth herein.
- 108. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 108.
- 109. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 109.

#### **PUNITIVE DAMAGES**

- 110. Answering the allegations of paragraph 110, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 109 as if fully set forth herein.
- 111. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 111.
- 112. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 112.

### **INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

- 113. Answering the allegations of paragraph 113, plaintiff repeats and incorporates herein by reference its answers to paragraphs 1 through 112 as if fully set forth herein.
- 114. Plaintiff denies the allegations in paragraph 114.

#### **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

#### FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Failure To State A Cause of Action)

1. The Counterclaim, and each and every cause of action asserted therein, fails to allege facts sufficient to state a cause of action against BBG.

#### SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Failure To Mitigate Damages)

2. Each COUNTERCLAIMANT has failed to take reasonable steps to mitigate its damages, if any, and, therefore, its claims against BBG are barred, reduced, and/or excused.

#### THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Partial Fault Of Third Parties)

3. BBG is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that the negligent and/or intentional acts and omissions of third parties contributed to the damages complained of in the Counterclaim, if any. BBG is entitled to a judicial determination of the proportion of fault of those third parties and to a reduction of damages, if any, awarded to any COUNTERCLAIMANT in proportion to that fault.

#### FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Exclusive Fault Of Third Parties)

4. BBG is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that the injuries complained of in the Counterclaim, if any, were caused solely, directly and proximately by the negligent and/or intentional acts or omissions of persons other than BBG. These other persons are solely responsible for any damages caused thereby.

#### FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Exclusive Fault of Each COUNTERCLAIMANT)

5. The injuries complained of in the Counterclaim, if any, were caused solely, directly and proximately by the negligence, carelessness, lack of care, and/or fault of each COUNTERCLAIMANT, or that of each COUNTERCLAIMANT's agents and/or employees.

EACH COUNTERCLAIMANT is therefore solely responsible for any damages caused thereby.

#### SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Comparative Fault)

damages under the circumstances alleged in the Counterclaim or in any other respect, said injury or damages are wholly or in part directly and proximately caused by each COUNTERCLAIMANT's own negligence, careless lack of due care, and/or fault, or that of each COUNTERCLAIMANT's agents and/or employees. In the event that any COUNTERCLAIMANT is found to have sustained injury and to be entitled to recovery of damages, that COUNTERCLAIMANT's recovery against BBG, if any, must be reduced by the proportion of damages caused by the acts and conduct of that COUNTERCLAIMANT, and its agents and/or employees.

#### SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Offset)

7. BBG has been damaged by each COUNTERCLAIMANT's conduct in an amount at least as great as each COUNTERCLAIMANT's alleged injuries. BBG is therefore entitled to an offset against each COUNTERCLAIMANT's alleged damages.

#### EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Superseding Cause)

8. The damages sustained by any COUNTERCLAIMANT, if any, are the result of actions of third parties constituting an intervening or superseding cause precluding any liability on the part of BBG.

#### NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Waiver)

9. Each COUNTERCLAIMANT has engaged in conduct and activities sufficient to constitute a waiver of any alleged breach of conduct, negligence, or any other right to assert any claim against BBG.

#### TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Estoppel)

10. Each COUNTERCLAIMANT has engaged in conduct and activities sufficient to estop it from bringing the claims asserted in the Counterclaim against BBG.

## **ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

(Laches)

11. Each COUNTERCLAIMANT's inexcusable and unreasonable delay in filing its Counterclaim, and its knowledge regarding the allegations in the Counterclaim, bar each COUNTERCLAIMANT from maintaining this action under the doctrine of laches.

#### TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Unclean Hands)

12. Each COUNTERCLAIMANT is completely barred from maintaining this action under the doctrine of unclean hands.

#### THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Lack Of Causation)

13. Each COUNTERCLAIMANT's injuries, if any, were not a result of or caused by any acts or omissions of BBG or its agents or employees, and therefore, each COUNTERCLAIMANT is barred from asserting any cause of action against BBG.

#### FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Justification And Privilege)

14. BBG alleges that any failure to perform any contractual duties on its part, which failure is specifically denied, and any other allegedly wrongful conduct on BBG's part was commercially reasonable, justified, and privileged.

#### FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Ambiguity)

15. The Counterclaim is ambiguous and unintelligible in that it does not allege with sufficient specificity the grounds upon which BBG is alleged to be responsible, in whole or in part, for each COUNTERCLAIMANT's alleged damages.

#### SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(No Reliance)

16. Each COUNTERCLAIMANT, its agents, servants, representatives, or other predecessors in interest, did not rely on any promises, warranties, or representations, if any, which may have been made by BBG.

## SEVENTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Statute of Limitations)

17. Each COUNTERCLAIMANT's claim for damages is barred by the applicable statutes of limitation.

#### EIGHTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Unconstitutional Punitive Damages Request)

18. Each COUNTERCLAIMANT's prayer for punitive damages is unconstitutional because it seeks to impose an excessive fine within the meaning of the Excessive Fines Clause of the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and it violates the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

#### NINETEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Speculative Damages)

- 19. Each COUNTERCLAIMANT's claim for damages is barred because its alleged damages are speculative and uncertain.
- 20. BBG presently has insufficient knowledge or information upon which to form a belief as to whether it may have additional, as yet unstated, affirmative defenses

available. BBG reserves the right to assert additional affirmative defenses in the event discovery indicates they would be appropriate.

#### **PRAYER**

Wherefore, Plaintiffs BBG Communications, Inc. and BBG Holdings Limited and Third-party Defendants Gregorio Galicot and Rafael Galicot pray for judgment against NCIC as follows:

- a. That NCIC's counterclaims be dismissed in their entirety with prejudice, and that all relief requested by NCIC be denied.
- That a judgment be entered granting Plaintiff all relief sought in Plaintiff's Complaint.
- c. That Plaintiff be awarded costs, attorney's fees, and other relief, both legal and equitable, to which it may be justly entitled, and
- d. That Plaintiff be awarded such other and further relief as deemed just and proper.

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ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS BBG COMMUNICATIONS, INC BBG HOLDINGS LIMITED

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served on all parties via United States certified mail, return receipt requested on this day of September, 2004.

Gregory P. Love